

REMARKS

In the outstanding office action dated July 28, 2004, claims 26-39 were examined. Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 27-32 would be allowable if amended to include the subject matter of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 26 and 33-39 stand rejected. In response, claims 26 and 28 have been amended, claim 27 has been canceled, and claims 43-48 have been added. Accordingly, all pending claims 26, 28-39 and 43-48 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 26 and 28-39 are Allowable.

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Focke, et al., US Patent 6,463,716. Claim 26 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 27. This subject matter has been indicated as allowable in point 6 of the outstanding office action. Accordingly claim 26 is allowable. Claims 28-39, which depend from claim 26, are also allowable.

Claims 43-48 are Allowable.

Claim 43 includes the subject matter of original claims 26 and 29. This subject matter has also been indicated as allowable in point 6 of the outstanding office action. Accordingly claim 43 is allowable. Claims 44-48, which depend from claim 43 and correspond to original claim 27, 28, and 30-32, are also in allowable format.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is submitted that the claims as now appearing in this application are in good and proper form for allowance. A favorable action on the part of the examiner is respectfully solicited. If, in the opinion of the examiner a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 20022/38497A/US.

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Respectfully submitted,



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